



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

9150 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY – DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242
(562) 940-2501



JERRY E. POWERS
Chief Probation Officer

“County and State Partnership Nets Another Arrest in Fraud Crackdown”

Carol Lin
Special Projects/Media
Carol.Lin@probation.lacounty.gov
562-445-9297

Today (Friday) at approximately 9:00 AM, Los Angeles County Probation’s Special Projects Team joined detectives with the California Department of Insurance, Fraud Division and arrested Robyn Palmer, a former probation officer. She voluntarily surrendered to investigators at the Department of Insurance Headquarters located in Commerce, CA.



This is the latest arrest as L.A. County Probation continues to beef up its Professional Standards division and team up with the State Department of Insurance fraud investigators, the California Medical Board and the L.A. County District Attorney’s office to crack down on insurance fraud and employee misconduct.

"Probation investigators continue to work with our partner agencies to root out fraudulent activity within the Probation Department," says David Grkinich, Bureau Chief, Professional Standards, "This case illustrates that even if employees have left the department, we will pursue charges if fraudulent activity is uncovered".

At the time of the alleged fraudulent activity, Robyn Palmer was employed as a sworn peace officer with the Los Angeles County Probation Department and was assigned to Juvenile Hall as a Detention Services Officer.

Probation’s Return To Work and Special Projects teams investigate workers compensation claims for discrepancies of information, verification of medical notes and clarification from doctors. It was in March 2014 that a member of this team noted a discrepancy during a formal audit of the suspect’s disability claim.

"Within the last year the Department added a Special Projects Team comprised of four supervisory level investigators," says Jennifer Kaufman, Senior Director, "These investigators are specially trained to recognize the signs of workers compensation and/or medical fraud. "

Probation’s Complex Case Committee which also includes case managers and County Counsel, provided documentation and worked closely with State Insurance investigators and the American Heritage Life Insurance Company (Allstate). As a result of this collaboration, Allstate submitted the allegation that Robyn Palmer filed numerous fraudulent insurance claims and received disability insurance benefits she was not entitled to for a total amount of more than \$29,122. The disability benefits were for an alleged back and shoulder injury she claimed occurred in July 2013 while restraining a minor.

Probation records showed that on the alleged injury date, Palmer was not at work and there were no employee records documenting any work related injury involving Palmer.

Palmer was arrested on 14 Felony Counts for Insurance Fraud, Forgery, Wire Fraud, and Grand Theft. Palmer was arrested and transported to the Century Regional Detention Facility in Lynwood, California, where she was booked into custody awaiting arraignment. If convicted, Palmer could be sentenced to State Prison or County Jail for her multiple Felony Counts. Palmer is currently being held without bail.

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